11

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RUNCORN

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR - 1970

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Health Committee, Chairman and Members.	
List of Staff.	
Report of the Medical Officer of Health.	
SECTION I - GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS	
General and	1 & 2
Vital Statistics	
Causes of Death	3 & 4
SECTION II - HEALTH SERVICES	
Hospital Facilities	5
General Pracitioner Services	5
Ambulance Services.	5
SECTION III - NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951	5
SECTION IV - PREVALANCE & CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES	6
SECTION V - SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA	
Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.	7
Inspections made	8
Notices issued.	9
Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961	10
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	11
Water Supplies	12
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	12
Drainage	13
Rivers and Streams	13
Closet Conversions	13
Public Cleansing Service	13
Private Tips	14
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	14
Clean Air Act, 1956/68	15
Rats and Mice Destruction	15
Insect Pests	16
Swimming Baths	16
Caravan Sites	16
Mortuaries	16
SECTION VI - HOUSING	
Number of houses in Parishes	17
Survey of Unfit houses	18
Clearance Orders and Individual Unfit Houses	18
Improvement Grants	19
Housing Act, 1969 - Qualification Certificates	19
SECTION VII - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD	
Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations	20
Milk (Special Designation) Regulations	20
Milk Sampling	20
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	21
Hawkers Registration	21
Meat Inspection	21
Slaughtermen	22
Food Inspection in Shops and Canteens	21
Condemned Food Disposal	22
Particulars of Samples not up to Standard	23
Particulars of Food Complaints from Private Purchasers.	23
APPENDICES	
Water Supplies	24 & 25
Analysis of Unfit Houses	26
Readings of Volumetric Apparatus.	27 & 28

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RUNCORN

Chairman: Councillor S. Williams.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman; Councillor H. M. Ditchfield.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor D. S. Bosshardt.

Councillors

Mrs. J. A. Glover, J.P.
Mrs. M. Bate,
Mrs. D. M. Smith
J. Billington
W. Fowles
J. W. Kirkham,
G. Millichamp
P. Hounfield,
J. Sephton,
W. H. Stubbs,
R. Wilkinson.
F. Nelson,
D. Rattigan,
J. A. Eustance.

Ex-Officio: Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the District Council.

Medical Officer of Health

J. E. O'Malley, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

The present Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Middlewich, Northwich, Runcorn and Winsford Urban District Councils, and North Rural District Council

and the Divisional Medical Officer to the Mid-Cheshire and Runcorn Divisions.

Chief Public Health Inspector

D. Boothman, M.AP.H.I.,	Cert.R.S.I. Cert.Meat & Food Insp., Cert.Smoke Insp. National Cert. Building.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

G. F. Sixsmith M.A.P.H.I.,	Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat & Food Insp., Cert. Smoke Insp. National Cert. Building. Cert. Housing Management. Diploma Advanced Hygiene.

Public Health Inspectors:

W.P. Moss, M.A.P.H.I.	Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat & Food Insp.
G. W. Beattie M.A...M.I.	Diploma P.H.I. Education Board Cert. Smoke Insp. Cert. Meat and Food Insp. Nat. Cert. Building.

Technical Assistant:

J. W. Whitmarsh	Cert. City and Guilds Building Coal Utilisation Council. Cert. of Competency.

Trainee Public Health Inspector:

S. Baxter	Intermediate Examination P.H.I. Education Board.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Rural District Council of Runcorn

I have the honour to submit the 1970 Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

The past year has seen many important changes. The abolition of Divisional Health Committees resulted largely from the setting up of the new Social Services Department. Because of this the annual report to the Divisional Health Committee previously included as an appendix to this report will not now appear in the future.

The Divisional Health Committees had remained in being since the National Health Service was created in 1948 and it was with great reluctance that the County Health Committee agreed to their being disbanded.

Another major change has been the setting up of the new Social Services Department. This meant the loss from the Health Department of the Mental Health Service, the Home Help Service and the Services for the Physically Handicapped and their transfer to the new Area Social Services Departments. Preparation for the setting up of the new department took place over very many months and involved the divisional health staff in much work preparing for the hand over.

As a result of County Health Department policy it has been necessary to fuse together existing divisions and to base divisional health administration on new combined divisions.

So far as the divisions of Runcorn and Mid-Cheshire are concerned many administrative changes have taken place in order to create a single large division. Initially this meant the loss of one of my Divisional Administrative Assistants, Mr. W. R. Jones, and the assumption of the administration of both divisions by my Divisional Administrative Assistant, Mr. S. R. Large.

There has been an expansion at one administrative centre with a corresponding contraction to a sub office at the other. These changes have, of course, led to uncertainties and inevitable changes of duties for the staff involved. So far as possible this major change was brought about with the minimum of trauma to the staff and my thanks are due to the divisional administrative and clerical staffs for their loyalty and support through what has undoubtedly been a time of considerable re-adjustment and re-orientation.

With regard to immunisation against infectious disease the outbreak of diphtheria in a nearby large city again emphasised the important lesson that mothers must make every effort to have their children immunised by accepting the invitations sent to them by the Health Department. Only in this way, by maintaining a high immunisation rate, can serious infectious diseases such as this be kept under control.

Measles immunisation has been recommenced now that the national supply has improved and this is to be welcomed as there is still mortality and considerable morbidity from the complications resulting from measles infection. The introduction of rubella vaccination for young adolescent grils is a great advance as this should prevent babies in subsequent generations from being born with severe handicaps due to the mother contracting the disease during pregnancy.

The County scheme for computerised call up for cervical cytology commenced in September, 1970 and the response to date has been encouraging. It is hoped that this screening programme will identify pre-cancerous conditions of the cervix at a time when treatment can effect a complete cure.

The work of the public health inspectorate is largely taken for granted by the public and I should emphasize the vital role which the inspectors play in the maintenance of high standards in the environmental side of public health.

Reference to later pages of the report indicate environmental health matters dealt with during the year and show the wide variety and importance of their work.

The investigation of food poisoning cases and excretors, the tracing and surveillance of typhoid and other infectious diseases contacts has been a frequent part of their work. Continental holidays are now common and invariably this brings with it contact tracing and surveillance of such potentially serious infectious diseases as typhoid fever. Returning holiday makers not infrequently become either cases or contacts of this disease especially if they have been to certain countries bordering the Mediterranean where purity of water supplies and clean food cannot always be guaranteed.

The latter highlights the important role of the public health inspectorate in the control of communicable diseases. Changes in the structure of local government at both first and second tier levels are imminent and in the re-organisation of local govern ent and the health services it is vital that this important aspect of the control of communicable diseases will not be lost to sight.

My thanks are due to Mr. Boothman your Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff for their loyalty and support, to the Clerk and the chief officers of the council for their help and advice and to the Chairman and members of the committee for their constant co-operation.

Yours obediently,

J. E. O'MALLEY,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION 1

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

(1) GENERAL STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics - 1969/79

	YEAR	
	1969	1970
Population	42,030	42,090
Rateable Value (at end of year)	£1,724,230	£1,795,506
Estimated Product of Penny Rate	£7,012	£7,103
Estimated number of inhabited dwellings (at end of year)	15,340	15,698
Area (acres in District)	40,642	

(2) VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	303	299	602
Illegitimate	20	11	31
Total Live Births	323	310	633

Still-births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	5	5	10
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total stillbirths	5	5	10

Total Live and Stillbirths	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	308	304	612
Illegitimate	20	11	31
Total Live and Stillbirths	328	315	643

Live Birth Rates etc.	Local Auth.	England & Wales
Live births per 1,000 home population (Crude rate)	15.0	16.0
Area Comparability Factor	1.00	1.00
*Local Adjusted rate	15.0	16.0
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.94	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	5	8
Stillbirth Rate		
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	16	13

Deaths of Infants Under 1 year of Age	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	4	2	6

Deaths of Infants Under 4 weeks of age	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	3	2	5
Under 1 week of age			
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	2	4

Infant Mortality Rates	Runcorn R. D. C.	England & Wales
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	9	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births.	10	17
Neonatal Mortality Rate: Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births.	8	12
Early neonatal Mortality Rate Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	6	11
Perinatal Mortality Rate: Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	22	23

Deaths all ages	Males	Females	Total
	274	229	503

Death Rates etc., - All ages:	Runcorn R. D. C.	England & Wales
Deaths per 1,000 home population (Crude rate)	12.0	11.7
Area Comparability Factor	1.05	1.00
*Local adjusted rate	12.6	11.7
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.08	1.00

*NOTE:- The Local Adjusted birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The adjusted rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

Causes Of Death

		Males	Females	Total
1.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	2	2
2.	Malignant Neoplasm Oesophagus	1	2	3
3.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	2	7
4.	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	4	8	12
5.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	26	4	30
6.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	14	14
7.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2	2
8.	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-	1
9.	Leukaemia	-	1	1
10.	Other Malignant Neoplasms	10	15	25
11.	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	1	2
12.	Diabetes Mellitus	2	1	3
13.	Avitaminoses, etc.	-	1	1
14.	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	3	-	3
15.	Other Disease of Blood etc.	-	1	1
16.	Mental Disorders	-	1	1
17.	Multiple Sclerosis	-	1	1
18.	Other Disease of Nervous System	2	1	3
19.	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1
20.	Hypertensive Disease	7	4	11
21.	Ischaemic Heart Disease	79	49	128
22.	Other forms of Heart Disease	11	16	27
23.	Cerebrovascular Disease	37	40	77
24.	Other Disease of Circulatory System	12	6	18
25.	Influenza	2	6	8
26.	Pneumonia	16	14	30
27.	Bronchitis and Emphysema	21	6	27
28.	Other Disease of Respiratory System	2	-	2
29.	Peptic Ulcer	3	1	4
30.	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	2	2
31.	Other Disease of Digestive System	2	2	4
32.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3
33.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2

		Males	Females	Total
34.	Other Disease, Genito-Urinary System	3	4	7
35.	Disease of Musculo-skeletal System	2	2	4
36.	Congenital Anomalies	2	3	5
37.	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	-	1
38.	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1
39.	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	3	4
40.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	4	11
41.	All Other Accidents	4	4	8
42.	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	3	2	5
43.	All other External Causes	-	1	1
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES:-	274	229	503

S E C T I O N II

HEALTH SERVICE

(1) Information concerning the statutory and voluntary health and welfare services in the area may be obtained from the Divisional Medical Office 28, Halton Road, Runcorn. Telephone Number - Runcorn 72871

(2) HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Runcorn Rural District lies within the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board's area, whose offices are at Wilberforce House, The Strand, Liverpool, 2. Telephone Number - 051-236-8464.

The addresses of the relevant Management Committees are as follows:-

Group IV - Warrington & District Hospital Management Committee.
Warrington General Hospital,
Lovely Lane,
Warrington.
Tel. No. Warrington 35911

Group XIII - West Cheshire Hospital Management Committee
P.O. Box 50, Liverpool Road, Chester.
Telephone Number - Chester 25281.

(3) GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES

The District lies within the area of the Cheshire Executive Council, whose offices are at 28, Nicholas Street, Chester.
Telephone Number - Chester 23158

(4) AMBULANCE SERVICES

The ambulance services is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from Central Control at County Hall Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this control.

S E C T I O N III

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place. No action was necessary under this section.

Section 50

Under this section the Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made. No action was necessary.

S E C T I O N IV.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following are the infectious disease notified for the years 1969-1970:-

Disease	Cases Notified 1969	Cases Notified 1970
Scarlet Fever	13	22
Measles	14	349
Whooping Cough	-	4
Infective Hepatitis	17	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis	6	3

Mr. [illegible], [illegible] and Gentlemen,

Rural District Council of Runcorn.

I have the honour to report on the Environmental sections of this report.

In general there has been a steady progress on a broad front.

Smoke Control Areas are proceeding in the Bridgewater section at Helsby as part of the seven year programme for the whole of the built up areas. The Department's experience is that the public welcome this improvement.

The only large area of some 61 unfit houses has been demolished. There now remain several small groups and individual houses which require action under the Housing Acts to secure demolition. Improvement Grants continue steadily at a slightly higher rate

Progress in providing main drainage to many properties is gaining momentum owing to the provision of new sewerage and sewer extensions.

Food Hygiene standards are only maintained by continuing inspections, the emphasis being now on the education of the food handlers, since premises generally have been brought up to a good structural and decorative standard.

Litter continues to pose considerable problems, the dividend responsibility between street cleaning and public health requirements, further the difficulties in the labour situation with public cleansing have caused a deterioration. The proposed additional litter compounds should improve matters, but in addition an organised regular system of emptying litter bins is required.

Yours obediently,

D. BOOTHMAN,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Nature of Inspections made	No. of Inspections
Dwelling Houses, Housing Acts	294
Dwelling Houses, Public Health Acts	225
Dwelling Houses, Qualification Certificates	51
Dwelling Houses, Improvement Grants	235
Dwelling Houses, Housing Applications	2[illegible]4
Schools	6
Moveable Dwellings	98
Water Supplies, Samples	27
Water Supplies, Other Inspections	15
Closet Conversions	-
Cesspool and Septic Tanks	79
Sewer Connections	290
Sewers and Drains	341
Colour Tests	34
Ditches and Watercourses	54
Refuse Collections and Disposal	60
Accumulations of Refuse	42
Tipping on Waste Land	28
Vermin (Rats and Mice, etc.,)	48
Vermin (Insects)	60
Keeping of Animals	19
Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963	-
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	127
Mortuary	8
Petrol Stores	35
Divisional Health Matters	42
Interviews with Builders, Owners, etc.,	142
Clean Air Act	687
Noise Abatement Act	37
Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act.	36
Infectious Diseases	85
Miscellaneous	138
Dairies and Milk Retailers	9
Bakehouses	14
Shops and Food Stores	175
Food Inspection	38
Slaughterhouse - Meat Inspection	357
Ice Cream (Samples)	19
Ice Cream (Inspection of Premises)	19
Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles	[illegible]
Factories Act, 1961	4
Salmonella	-
Flooding	18
Gypsies	28
	4,312

Nuisances and complaints are usually rectified following informal action.

Statutory Notices were served in respect of the following:-

Act	Section	Defect	Result
PHA 1936	93	Various house defects	Abated
PHA 1936	93	Keeping of Animals in such a state as to be a nuisance.	Abated
PHA 1936	39	Defective eavesgutter	Abated
PHA 1936	93	Various house defects	Abated
PHA 1936	24	Inadequate access obstructing interceptor to sewer.	Abated
PHA 1961	26	Various house repairs	Abated
PHA 1936	39 93	Various house repairs	Abated

With the Compliments

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

Public Health Department,
Runcorn Rural District Council,
Castle Park,
Frodsham.

Telephone: Frodsham 2186

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provision as t health
(including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors.)

PREMISES	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	62	18*	8	Nil
Factories without mechanical power	20	2	-	Nil
Other Premises	17	-	-	Nil
Totals.	99	20	8	Nil

*This includes factories and bakehouses

Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Insptr.	By H.M. Insptr.	
Want of Cleanliness	8	8	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	11	11	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A further 132 inspections were carried out. In general the work has been found to be much more detailed and time consuming than originally anticipated. Plans of new premises and alterations are scrutinised as regards compliance with the Act, where appropriate.

TABLE A

Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during year	Total No. regd. premises at end of the year.	No. of regd premises receiving a general insp. during the year
Offices	3	4	10
Retail Shops	9	146	69
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses.	-	2	11
Catering est. open to the public, canteens	-	35	42
Feul Storage Depots.	-	-	-

TABLE B

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises 132

TABLE C

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace	No. of persons Employed	Females	Males
Offices	528	103	425
Retail Shops	612	390	222
Wholesale Depts. Warehouses	57	45	12
Catering Est. open to Public	286	223	63
Canteens	37	33	4
Fuel Storage Depts.	-	-	-
TOTAL	1520	794	726

WATER SAMPLES

The water supply for the whole of the district is provided by the Warrington Runcorn and District Water Board - the offices are at Pinners Brow, Warrington.

All the supplies are chlorinated and the Lymm source now supplying Grappenhall and parts of Stockton Heath is softened.

The water supply has been satisfactory in qulaity and quantity. However, instances of taste complaint of a chlorophenol taint have arisen - these occur intermittently and at isolated places. It is believed that these are due to deposition of organic matter in the pipes which from time to time decompose to react with chlorine to give this taint.

The Water Engineer supplies copies of reports on chemical analysis and bacteriological examination of water samples taken by his staff. All 145 bacteriological and chemical samples were satisfactory.

In addition this department carries out sampling for bacteriological examination of mains and private supplies twice per year. 9 samples were taken - all proved satisfactory. Where as a result of sampling, private supplies have been established as unsatisfactory, notices advising that the water be boiled or chlorinated prior to using for drinking, dietetic and dairy purposes are sent to the owners and occupiers.

Analysts reports on typical samples of main water and details of dwellings and population are supplied in the appendix.

Lead in Water

A few houses, 17 mostly in the Parish of Aston are supplied with Lake Vyrnwy water direct from the Liverpool Mains supply. Samples in 1968 revealed a high lead content after long contact with lead, and further samples in March 1969 revealed 0.495 mgm/litre after 8 hours contact and 0.500 mgm/litre after 16½ hours contact. The owners of the private mains were not prepared to take an alternative supply of harder water from the Warrington Mains. The users of this Vyrnwy water have been advised, where there are lead service pipes, not to use the water for drinking or dietetic purposes on the first draw off after standing until water has been run for about one minute.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor for the following information on the progress of essential sewerage and sewage disposal schemes.

Antrobus - Antrobus Main Drainage Scheme - Technical Details approved.

Helsby - Helsby Proffits Lane Area. Extension to Foul Sewer. Technical Details approved.

Hatton - Hatton - Main Drainage Scheme - Replace Existing S.D. Works by pumping to Acton Grange S.D. Works.

Appleton - Appleton Firs Lane Area. Drainage Scheme. Replace Existing S.D. Works by pumping to Acton Grange S.D. Works.

Helsby - New S.D. Works to replace existing - Consultants Report available February.

Helsby - Main Drainage - Diversion of Outfall Sewers. New Storm Overflows; New Pumping Station and Rising Main to S.D. Works.

Daresbury- Main Drainage - Outfall Sewer to Moore S.D. Works (Runcorn U.D.C.) Existing Works to be byepassed and closed.

Kingsley - Main Drainage - Extension of Sewer to serve Commonside area.

Gt.Budworth Main Drainage Scheme. Rivers Board consent terminates 30.6.71.

(Continued ...)

Appleton - Appleton Village - Main Drainage. Modernisation of existing S.D. Works.

Stretton - Stretton Village - Main Drainage. Replacement existing Works by pumping to Acton Grange. Rivers Board consent terminates 30.6.72.

Acton Grange - Works enlargement.

Grappenhall - Stockport Road Sewers.

Sewer Connections

Helsby, Proffits Lane; Kingsley Commonside.

The Department is contacting all owners of properties on the line of the new sewer, advising and preparing plans for the alterations of the drainage system within the curtilage of the properties. Foul and surface water drainage where combined have to be separated. Improvement Grants are available for houses without modern amenities, which may conveniently be provided at the time sewer connections are made.

DRAINAGE

Where plans are submitted to the Engineer and Surveyor involving drainage systems not connected to a public sewer, the observations of this department have been sought on the efficiency of the proposed drainage disposal. In cases involving discharge to a stream or water-course, consent is required from the River Authority.

The Department undertakes the clearing of combined drainage systems which may be technically sewers, where these are not the main sewers dealt with by the Engineer and Surveyor and where there is reasonable access to the pipes.

Simple drain stoppages are also cleared on request on a cost basis. The service has proved most useful in dealing expeditiously with these problems. 133 stoppages were dealt with.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Liasion is maintained with the Pollution Officers of the Mersey and Weaver River Authority. Pollution of ditches and streams remains a problem in areas without sewers. Private owners are advised on the best type of septic tanks and filters for their property. Where such properties are in groups, the final satisfactory solution is the provision of a sewer and sewage disposal works.

Liquor from cowsheds and silage pits presents a particularly difficult problem where it is not collected and returned to the land as manure. With the increasing development of intensive animal husbandry, farmers are faced with the fact that the foul drainage must be dealt with in such a manner as to avoid nuisance and pollution of ditches and watercourses.

The River Authority are pressing for improvements in the treatment of trade and sewage effluents which will be a long and expensive matter. Some progress has been made.

CLOSET CONVERSIONS

No grants were made under the Public Health Acts. Conversions to the water carriage system were carried out as part of improvements included in Improvement Grant Schemes.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This service is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor under direct labour. This Department arranges the provision and fixing of Litter Bins other than those at Trunk Road Lay-byes.

(Continued .....)

Disposal - Disposal by tipping into disused sand pits at Whitley by agreement with the owner, paper manufacturers. The pits are partially flooded, therefore the tipping of household refuse is confirmed to the area above water level. Inert waste from paper manufacturing is tipped into the flooded area. Pumping is to be carried out in one pit, at present unused, to give capacity for dry tipping.

Tipping at Whitley is controlled, covering material is imported to the site. Tree planting has been carried out along the perimeter and now the completed portions could be reinstated to grassland.

Collection - Household refuse is collected weekly over most of the district a few of the more rural parts have a fortnightly collection. With the adoption of a paper sack bin liner and re-organisation it is hoped to make the collection weekly throughout the district.

Pail and chemical closets are emptied weekly.

A more frequent collection of trade refuse, particularly from food premises would effect a desirable improvement in general hygiene of such premises.

Litter - Owing to labour difficulties the emptying of Litter Bins is far from satisfactory, and until it is effectively organised, the provision of further litter receptacles as requested by various Parish Councils is not being implemented

A Litter Compound has been provided at Stockton Heath to receive rubbish brought by the public. This is well used - siting is a contentious matter, but undoubtedly the casual dumping in ditches and on road verges in that part of the district has been noticeably reduced. Consideration is now to be given to providing further such compounds.

Cleaning up waste area of land which are untidy by reason of dumped rubbish is now carried out within the limits of available labour.

Cesspool Emptying Services - The two cesspool emptying vehicles used for desludging septic and settling tanks on Council andprivate property, and for the collection of nightsoil. The Council give a free service for emptying wholly domestic septic tanks once a year on application, the applicant to have access covers of the tanks loosened and opened in readiness. Difficulty is experienced in keeping pace with the demand. The charge for industrial and farm liquor tanks remains at £1.50p perhour. All owners of properties having septic tanks have been invited to make use of this service.

PRIVATE TIPS

Supervision of these continued. Problems have been as at other tips - the dispersal of loose paper by wind, occasional fires, and the tendency of the operators to deposit unauthorised and offensive material.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

In general noise from existing establishments is accepted , apart from when new houses are built close to a noise source. Alterations in character and timing of the noises also bring complaints. Launderettes when contiguous to dwellinghouses have been a problem, but managements have been co-operative.

Several complaints were received concerning noise from a new chemical plant situated outside the District. Undue noise problems have arisen in commissioning the plant.

CL[illegible], 195[illegible]
SMOKE CONTROL PROGRAMME

AREA	No.	No. of Properties	No. of Acres	Date of Operation
WALTON WEST	2A	600	334	1.7.69
STOCKTON HEATH WEST	3	484	45	1.9.71
HELSBY	4	1381	706	1.9.72
STOCKTON HEATH	5	456	46	1.9.72

The Local Authority was awaiting the confirmation of the Stockton Heath No. 5 Area, at the end of the year the date of the Council's Order being 22nd December, 1970. (Since then the confirmation has been received as above).

The anticipated shortage of solid smokeless fuels for the 1970/71 Winter Period, caused the Council to defer the operative date of the Stockton Heath West No. 3 Area for 12 months, the date now being 1st September, 1971.

The total number of properties in confirmed Smoke Control Area is 2466, covering 1085 acres.

The projected "target" date for the completion of the Smoke Control Programme is 1977 and covers the whole of the built up area South of Warrington in the Parishes of Walton, Stockton Heath, Appleton and Grappenhall, together with the Parishes of Helsby and Frodsham and part of Alvanley.

Eventually Smoke Control Areas will cover 5,000 acres and include 12,000 properties.

An atmospheric monitoring apparatus is operated at Castle Park, Frodsham there already being one at the District Office, Stockton Heath, operated by the Central Electricity Generating Board. Recordings are shown on the Graph in the Appendix.

The Council are members of the Clean Air Society.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

Two full time Public Health Operatives are employed; they carry out mainly rodent control but have other duties including drain clearances, where practicable.

A limited number of farm contracts have been secured, and particular effor is made to obtain those where a farm is in a built-up area so that block treatment can be carried out with the adjacent properties where necessary.

Farmers are supplied with Warfarin on charge when requested, and advice is always available. Inspections are carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Treatment was offered to industrial premises at a charge of cost of labour and materials. Some of thes, including shcools, receive treatment as required on this basis: 52 preferred to enter into contracts amounting to £496.75. Dwellinghouses receive free treatment unless the infestation is due to lack of hygiene from the unsatisfactory keeping of animals or poultry. Warfarin with a wheatmeal base is used with satisfactory results.

The Council have 17 tips, sewage outfalls and properties which receive treatment as required.

Fluoracetamide treatment in sewers have been adopted with good results.

The total number of visits made, including reinspections was 2197. Note: 135 drain clearances were carried out during the year.

INSECT PESTS

The Department deals with insect pests in dwelling houses on request without charge, except that a nominal charge of 25p for the destruction of wasps nests is made. The same service is available to commercial premises on a cost basis. Routine preventative insecticide treatments were carried out at the School canteens and kitchens three times - Easter, Whitsuntide and Mid-Summer, for the Education Authority.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no Public Swimming Baths in the district.

CARAVAN SITES

Two sites completed the provision of individual W.C's to each caravan. A further site with communal W.C's is being considered by the owner for this improvement. One site at Grappenhall has finally received Planning Permission, and site amenities are to be provided. A site at Appleton has been discontinued. Other sites are in a reasonable condition.

The number of caravan licences is 37 (including 15 single caravans) for a total of 324 residential and 127 recreational caravans.

The estimated number of persons occupying these caravans in summer is:- Residential 648, Recreational 350.

The number of unauthorised or lapsed sites - 3 comprising 10 residential caravans. The unauthorised sites are referred to the Clerk's Department, and in certain cases enforcement action is taken under the Town and Country Planning Act.

Gypsies:-

Sporadic outbreaks of unauthorised caravan encampments occur on highways, verges and other open land causing considerable nuisance. Eventually, they move, leaving large amounts of rubbish.

The Cheshire County Council are considering the provision of 3 sites, when these are provided, it is hoped the County can be designated under the Caravan Sites Act, 1968, and then effective action might be taken.

The number of fixed type dwellings licensed under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269 is 4.

MORTUARIES

A mortuary at Stockton Heath is maintained.

SECTION VI

HOUSING

	New houses brought into Rate Record. Total per Parish Private	Local Auth.	No. of inhabited houses in Rural District. 31st December, 1970
Alvanley	2	-	134
Antrobus	2	-	253
Appleton	52	149	2245
Aston	-	-	50
Budworth Great	4	-	142
Daresbury	1	-	91
Dutton	2	-	94
Frodsham	66	70	3056
Grappenhall	27	-	2895
Hatton	-	-	123
Helsby	6	-	1581
Kingsley	28	-	540
Manley	4	-	174
Moore	-	-	173
Norley	3	-	348
Preston Brook	-	-	81
Stockton Heath	26	-	2567
Stretton	2	-	161
Sutton	1	-	209
Walton	8	-	584
Whitley	1	-	194
	232	219	15698

CLEARANCE ORDERS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

The results of formal action under the Housing Acts during the year are listed below. Included in the Appendix is an analysis of unfit hourses from September 1954 to date.

Parish	Demolished (Clearance Order).	Demolished (Sec. 17)	Closed	Recondition (Clearance or Demolition Order revoked).
Alvanley	-	-	-	-
Antrobus	-	-	-	1
Appleton	-	-	1	-
Aston	-	-	-	-
Budworth Great	-	-	-	-
Daresbury	-	-	-	-
Dutton	-	-	3	-
Frodsham	73	-	-	1
Grappenhall	8	2	-	-
Hatton	-	-	-	-
Helsby	-	-	-	-
Kingsley	-	-	-	-
Henley	-	-	-	-
Moore	-	-	-	-
Norley	-	1	-	-
Preston Brook	-	-	-	-
Stockton Heath	-	-	2	-
Stretton	-	-	-	-
Sutton	-	-	-	1
Walton	-	-	-	-
Whitley	-	-	-	-
Totals	81	3	6	3

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Initially, the inspections are made by this department, advice is given to the applicants, a report is made on the existing conditions of the house, the improvements ranking for grant and essential repairs necessary. On these reports, after consultations where necessary, the Engineer and Surveyor sends the application forms for grant and deals with the work subsequently.

One Improvement Area at Helsby is under consideration. The policy continued of inviting owners and tenants to take up Improvement Grants where suitable.

	Standard	Discretionary
Number of Enquiries for Grant.	82	61
Number approved	41	36

HOUSING ACT, 1967

Qualification Certificates:- 54 applications were made, at the end of the year.

S E C T I O N VII

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS

Distributors 59

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1960

Licences are now issued by the Cheshire County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

MILK SAMPLING

This is carried out by the Cheshire County Council Health Department, as regards keeping quality, adequate heat treatment, presence of brucellosis, and antibiotics levels. Copies of all results are forwarded to this department. There were 2 dairy herds in this district from which milk was sold raw to the public.

Table 1

	Taken by C.C.C.	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1. Methylene Blue	245	11
2. Phosphatase	113	-
3. Turbidity.	7	-

1. Measures the keeping quality of milk.
2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process.
3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process.

Table 2.

	Taken by C.C.C.		
	Bulk	Dealer Herd	Individual Cow
Brucella Negative	107	47	27
Brucella Positive	1	1	-
Tubercular Negative	-	4	-
Tubercular Positive	-	-	-
Penicillin Levels .05 iu	-	32	-
Penicillin Levels .05 iu	-	-	-

The Brucella Positive samples were taken from a herd where the Milk is sent for pasteurisation. No Regulation 20 Notice was necessary. The investigation arose out of a report that the Farmers wife was Brucella positive. Appropriate advice was given.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following table gives particulars of premises engaged in the handling preparation and cooking of food. Column 2 (Availability of Foods) gives the number of retail outlets for particular types of food.

Premises	No.	Avail-ability of Food	Reg.16 Apply	Comply Reg.16	Reg. 19 Apply	Comply Reg. 19
Grocers and General Stores	52	52	52	52	52	52
Green Grocer	11	29	11	11	11	11
Sweets	14	17	14	14	0	0
Butchers	16	21	16	16	16	16
Fish & Chips	6	6	6	6	6	6
Wet Fish	2	6	2	2	2	2
Cooked Meats	2	40	2	2	2	2
Bakers	5	8	5	5	5	5
Confectioners	7	11	7	7	7	7
Catering Premises and Cafes and Restaurants	24	24	24	24	24	24
Canteens Licences Premises and Clubs.	51	51	51	51	51	51

Regulation 16 requires the provision of a wash-hand basin with hot and cold water.
Regulation 19 requires the provision of sinks with hot and cold water supply.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

189 inspections, together with an additional 38 visits to inspect unsound food have been made under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations. Notices under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations served in respect of re-decoration of premises, structural repairs, protection of open food and provision of First Aid Materials.

No prosecutions were instituted under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

HAWKERS REGISTRATION - CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1963

Number registered 11

MEAT INSPECTION

Two slaughterhouses operate within the district, 100% inspection of meat was maintained involving time outside normal office hours.

All carcases passed fit are marked as required by the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963. Contracts for the marking are made at 90% of the full permitted charges, based on the previous year's slaughter.

Total number of animals killed = 7,400 which is 16.3% reduction on 1969.

CARCASES AND OTHER CARCASES OR PARTS CONDEMNED

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs
Number killed	442	405	251	6302
Number inspected	442	405	251	6302
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI				
Whole carcases condemned	2	11	20	91
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned (Mostly disease livers)	122	190	4	1021
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and cysticerci	28.0	49.6	9.5	17.6
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY				
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-
CYSTICERCOSIS	-	-	-	-

Meat condemned

The amount of meat and edible offals condemned was:-

For Tuberculosis ..... Nil
For other causes ..... 12,818 lbs.

CONDEMNED FOOD DISPOSAL
Meat Sterilisation Regulations, 1969

These regulations came into operation on the 1st November, 1969. The condemned meats and offal no longer requires to be stained with a green dye but is sent to a sterilisation plant for processing. The condemned meat and offal is transported in a specially constructed vehicle which is kept closed and locked at all times except when loading and unloading.

Other Foods

Other foods are collected and are disposed of by burying deep in the Council's tips.

SLAUGHTERMEN

Eleven licences were issued to competent slaughtermen for the slaughter of animals by the use of recognised humane killers.

FOOD INSPECTION IN SHOPS AND CANTEENS

The quantity of food condemned in shops and canteens during the year was:-

Meat at retail shops	460 lbs.
Canned meats	246 lbs.
Canned Fruit and Vegetables	454 lbs.
Frozen Foods	957 lbs.

Adulteration etc., Food and Drugs Act, 1955

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Cheshire County Council for the following report of the work carried out by his Department in the Runcorn Rural District under the Food and Drugs Act, during the year, 1970.

171 samples were obtained of which 8 were not up to standard.

PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES NOT UP TO STANDARD

No.	Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1	Milk	Sub-standard but genuine Milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 2.3 per cent.	Farmer cautioned
2	Milk	- ditto - 1.1 per cent	- ditto -
3	Milk	- ditto - 1.1 per cent	- ditto -
4	Milk	- ditto - 2.3 per cent	- ditto -
5	Milk	- ditto - 7.1 per cent	- ditto -
6	Milk	- ditto - 2.3 per cent	- ditto -
7	Milk	- ditto - 1.1 per cent	- ditto -
8	Milk	- ditto - 7.5 per cent deficient in fat	- ditto -

PARTICULARS OF FOOD COMPLAINTS FROM PRIVATE PURCHASERS:-

The department did not receive any complaints from private food purchasers.

WATER SUPPLIES

Chemical Analysis	Kelsby Pumping Station	Frodsham Pumping Station	Lymm Pumping Station	Broomedge Pumping Station	Hill Cliff Reservior	Liverpool Supply to Moore and Stockton Heath.
Date	13.4.70	13.4.70	5.8.70	13.4.70	13.4.70	23.4.70
Appearance	Clear	Clear & Colour less	Clear & Colour less	Clear	Clear & Colour less	Clear Slight Deposit
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Re-action pH	7.6	7.0	7.6	7.3	7.6	7.3
	PARTS PER MILLION					
Total solids	318	367	421	370	350	62
Nitrogen as free & saline ammonia	Nil	0.04	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as albuminoid	Nil	0.005	Nil	Nil	Nil	Less than 0.01
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil	Nil	Trace	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates	2.2	11.4	3.4	6.1	4.2	0.6
Chlorides as Cl	43	46	68	36	92	15
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C	0.8	0.9	0.2	0.8	0.7	2.4
Total hardness	241	256	209	278	169	18
Temporary hardness	188	100	184	172	110	10
Permanent Hardness	53	156	25	106	58	8
Alkalinity	188	100	184	172	110	10
Potassium as K	2.8	2.0	2.9	2.6	2.3	0.4
Free chlorine	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Poisonous metals	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manganese as Mn	Less than 0.025	Less than 0.025	Less than 0.025	Less than 0.025	Less than 0.025	Less than 0.025
Flourine	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1	-	Less than 0.1	-	-
	BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS					
Date	30.4.70	30.4.70	13.4.70	14.4.70	14.4.70	18.12.70
Number of organisms per ml. at 37°C	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bact. coli (type 1) per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total coliform Bacilli per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0

DISTRIBUTION OF WATER SUPPLIES

All houses in the District have Mains Supply by Public Water Mains Direct to the houses with the exception of the following:-

PARISH	GOOD QUALITY NO. OF HOUSES	GOOD QUALITY POPULATION	SUSPICIOUS OR UNSATISFACTORY NO. OF HOUSES	SUSPICIOUS OR UNSATISFACTORY POPULATION	NATURE OF SUPPLY
Alvanley			2	6	Spring
Dutton	1	2			Spring
Helsby	13	30			Private Bore-hole
Kingsley			2	12	Spring
Manley	1	3			Spring
Norley	1	4			Spring
TOTAL	16	39	4	18	

ANALYSIS OF UNFIT HOUSES

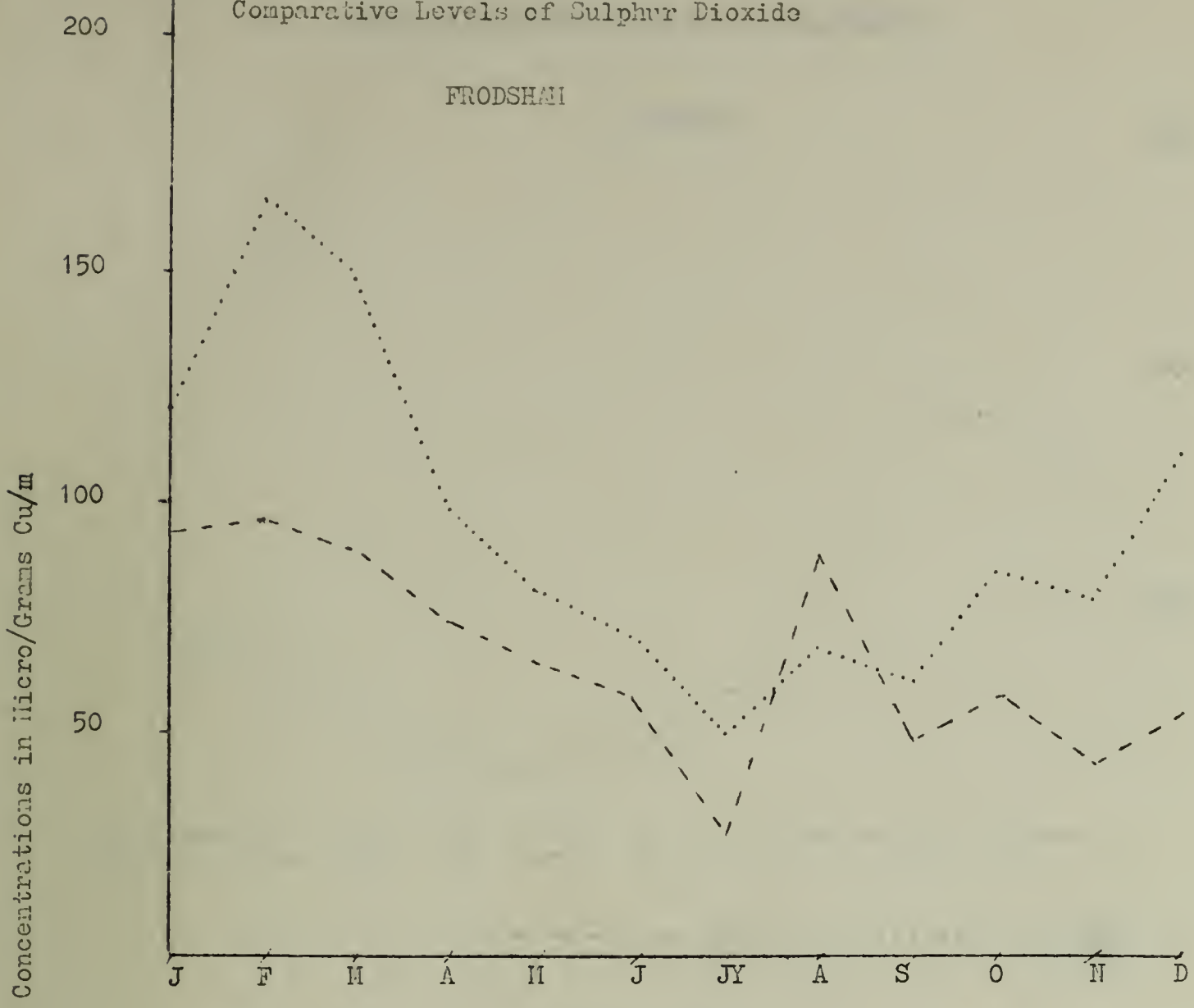
From 1st September, 1954 to 31st December, 1970

Parish	Total of three 5 year Schemes No. of Houses.	Demolished	Vacant		Demolition Order Or Clearance Order or Agreement not to re-let, but still occupied.	Reconditioned
			Closing Order or Agreement not to re-let	Clearance or Demolition Order.		
Alvanley	8	3	3	-	-	2
Antrobus	20	4	-	3	1	11
Appleton	26	14	6	7	7	-
Aston	8	5	2	-	-	3
Budworth Great	21	3	-	4	4	2
Daresbury,	6	-	-	2	1	-
Dutton	12	5	3	2	-	3
Frodsham	294	228	8	28	5	16
Grappenhall	69	42	2	7	1	3
Hatton	17	8	1	3	5	2
Helsby	54	41	2	11	1	3
Kingsley	50	18	3	7	1	15
Manley	2	-	-	-	-	1
Moore	8	5	-	6	-	-
Norley	12	4	1	1	-	4
Preston Brook	6	3	0	-	-	1
Stockton Heath	42	30	3	3	1	-
Stretton	15	7	1	-	1	5
Sutton	22	12	-	2	-	4
Walton	2	1	-	-	-	1
Whitley	23	15	.	1	2	3
TOTALS	717	448	35	87	33	79

ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING GRAPHS 1969/70

Comparative Levels of Sulphur Dioxide

FRODSHAM



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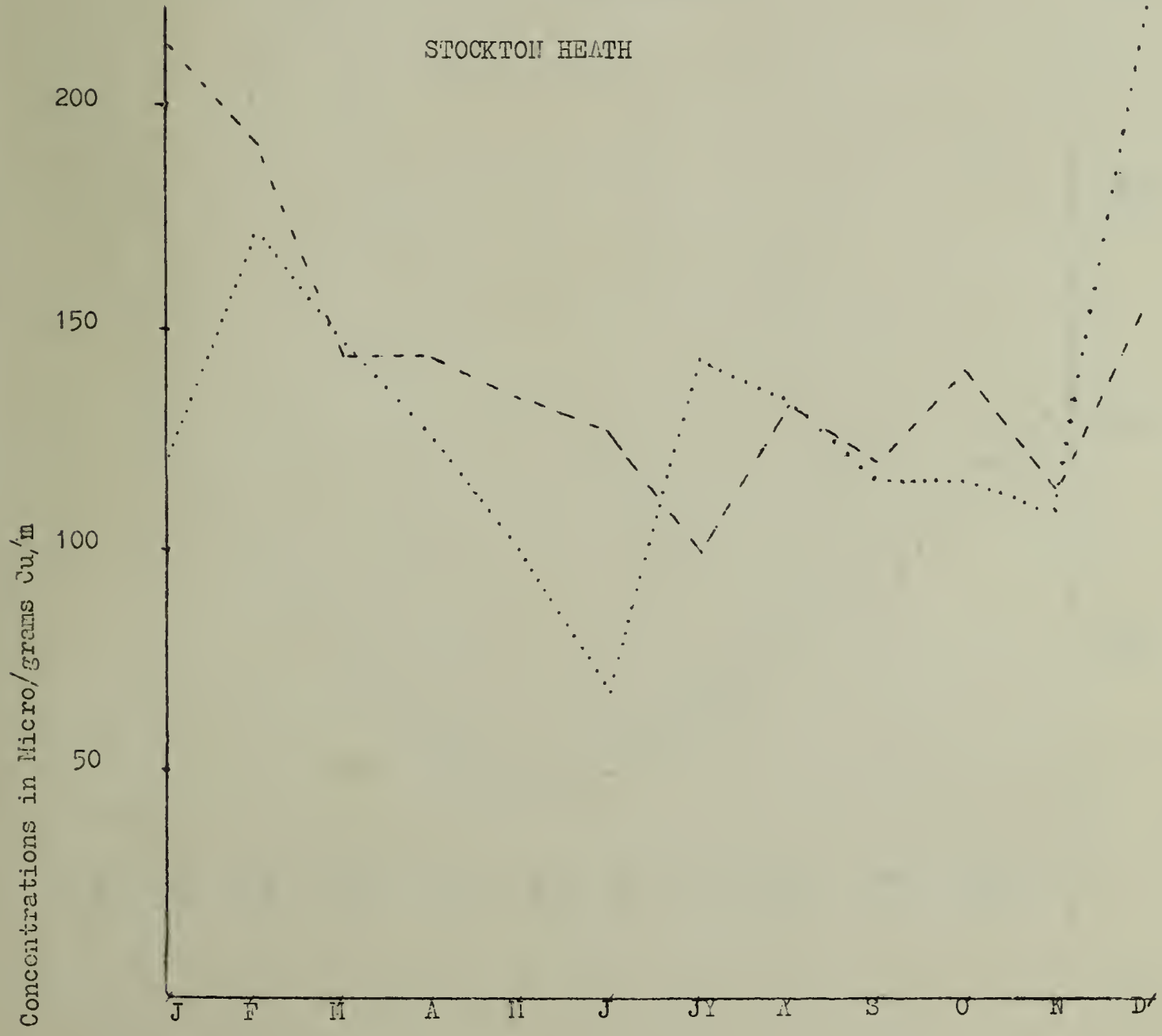
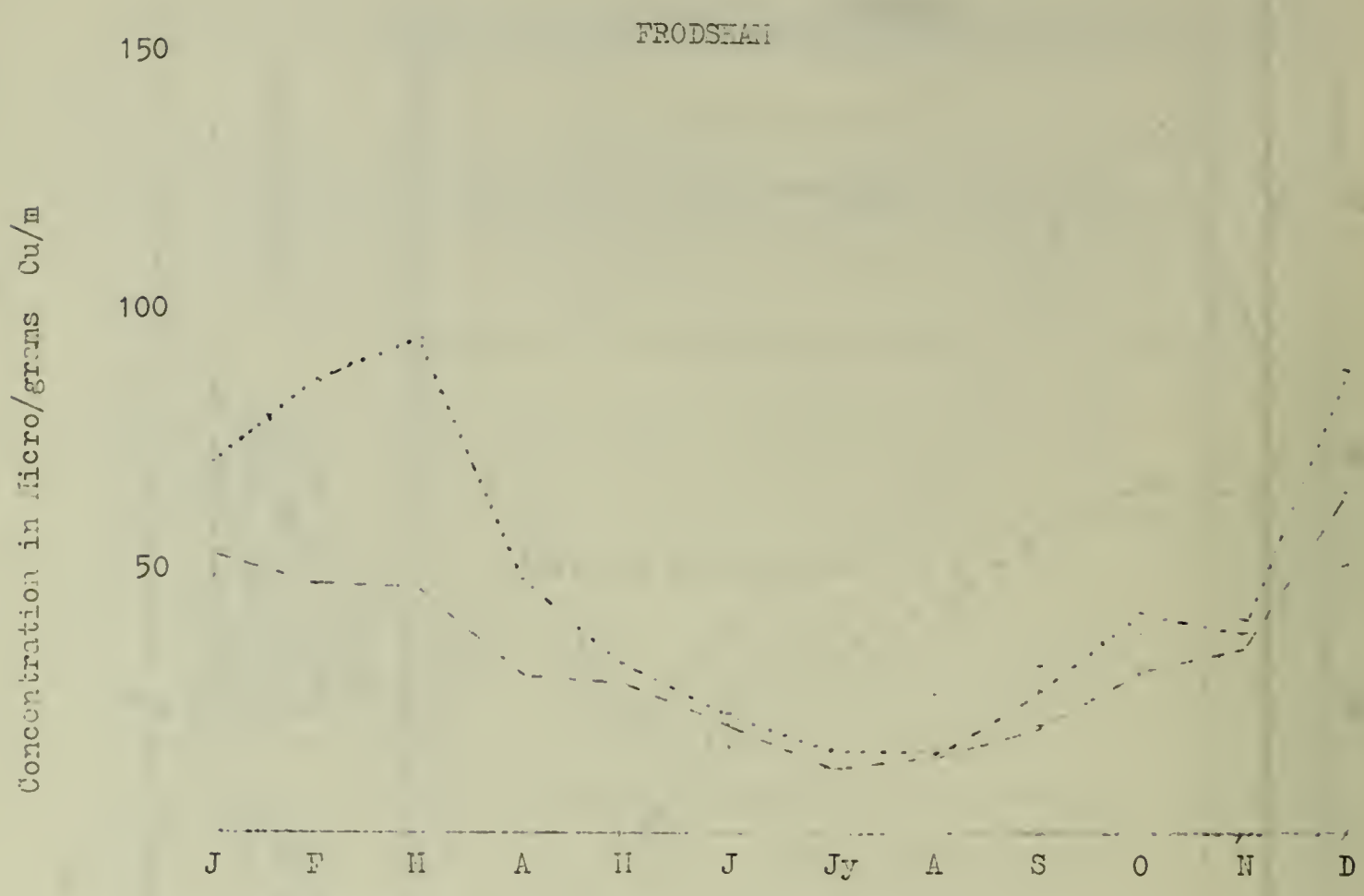
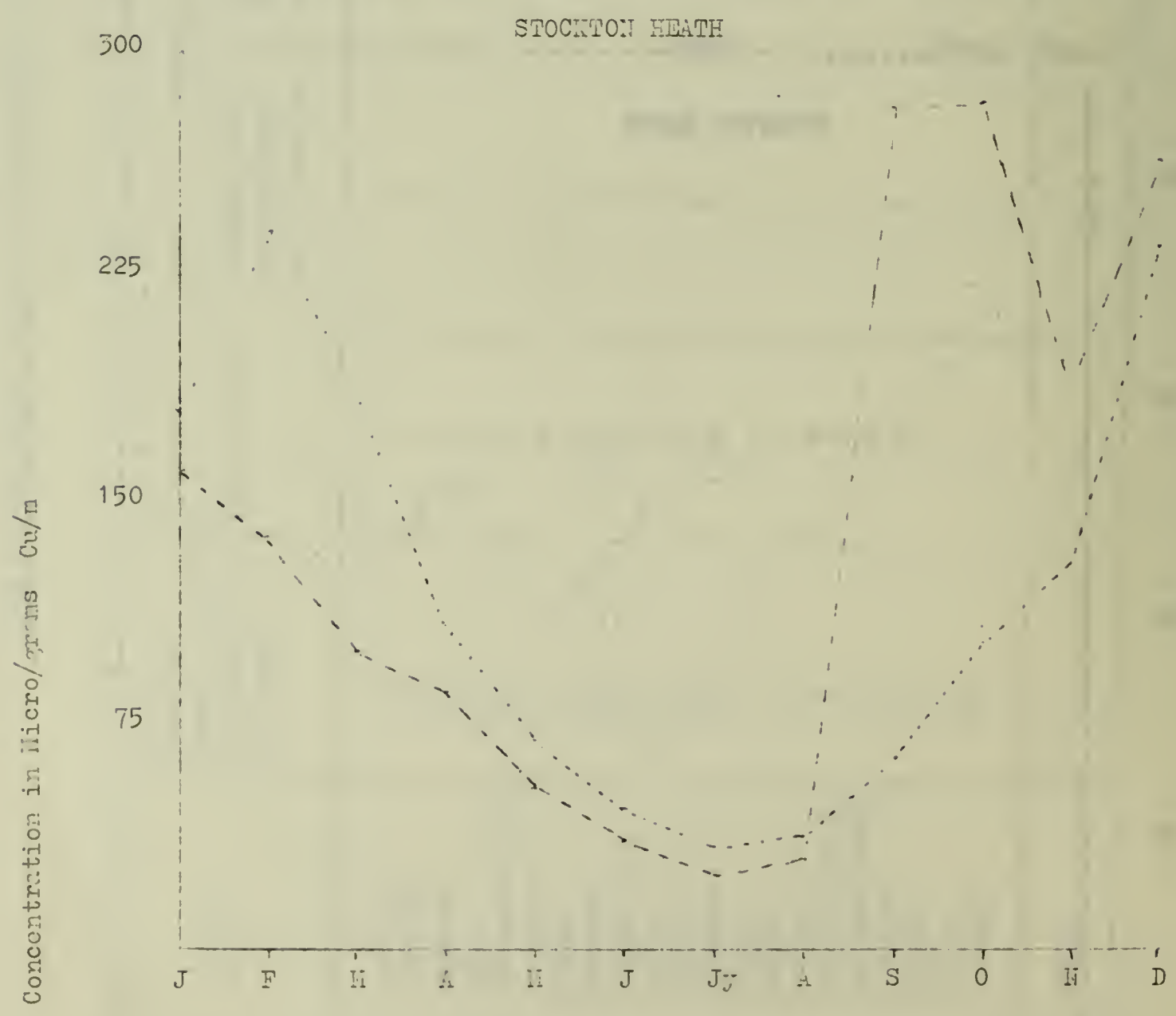
STOCKTON HEATH



ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING GRAPHS 1969/70

Comparative Levels of Smoke Pollution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